

PHARMACY BOARD[657]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Board of Pharmacy hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 7, "Hospital Pharmacy Practice," Iowa Administrative Code.

The amendments were approved at the June 2, 2009, regular meeting of the Board of Pharmacy.

The proposed amendments require that hospital pharmacies utilize a unit dose dispensing system, to the extent possible, for the distribution of drugs to patients in a hospital. The amendments provide for the determination by the pharmacist in charge of situations in which utilization of unit dose dispensing is not possible due to the dosage form or delivery system of the drug and require the pharmacist in charge to develop policies and procedures that identify those situations. The proposed amendments also require the pharmacist in charge to develop policies and procedures regarding the use of patient-owned drugs brought into the institution including procedures for identifying the drugs and ensuring the integrity of the drugs prior to permitting the use of such drugs by the patient.

Requests for waiver or variance of the discretionary provisions of these rules will be considered pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Any interested person may present written comments, data, views, and arguments on the proposed amendments not later than 4:30 p.m. on July 21, 2009. Such written materials may be sent to Terry Witkowski, Executive Officer, Board of Pharmacy, 400 S.W. Eighth Street, Suite E, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4688; or by E-mail to terry.witkowski@iowa.gov.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 155A.13 and 155A.36.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend paragraph 7.8(1)"a" as follows:

a. Hospitals shall utilize a unit dose dispensing system pursuant to rule 657—22.1(155A). All drugs dispensed by the pharmacist for administration to patients shall be in single unit or unit dose packages if practicable unless the dosage form or drug delivery device makes it impracticable to package the drug in a unit dose or single unit package. The need for nurses to manipulate drugs prior to their administration shall be minimized.

(1) The pharmacist in charge shall establish policies and procedures that identify situations when drugs may be dispensed in other than unit dose or single unit packages outside the unit dose dispensing system.

(2) The need for nurses to manipulate drugs prior to their administration shall be minimized.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 7.8(7) as follows:

7.8(7) Drugs brought into the institution. Policies The pharmacist in charge shall determine those circumstances when patient-owned drugs brought into the institution may be administered to a hospital patient and shall establish policies and procedures shall be established governing the use of drugs brought into the institution. Procedures shall address identification of the drug and methods for ensuring the integrity of the product prior to permitting its use by the patient. The use of patient-owned drugs shall be minimized to the greatest extent possible.